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TECHNICAL NOTE

FOREST INSECTS AND DISEASES IN ROOSEVELT CAMPOBELLO INTERNATIONAL PARK IN 1990

The following observations were made by Forest Insect and Disease Survey personnel of Forestry Canada - Maritimes on the various forest insects and diseases found during two visits to the Park in 1990.

HEMLOCK LOOPER, voracious, messy feeders of mainly balsam fir, eat only some parts of needles. High populations can kill trees in a year. Populations and damage by this insect have increased dramatically in both Maine and New Brunswick in the past couple of years. Sampling in the Park indicates that hemlock loopers are present, but that they have caused only light defoliation of balsam fir and white birch.

LARCH CANKER, a fungus disease that attacks and can kill larch trees, was common at Eagle Hill on young larch and was also present at other locations in the Park. The foliage of freshly-killed branches, which have had their nutrient and water flow cut off by the fungus canker, turns yellow. These yellow flags are easily seen in late summer.

GYPSY MOTH is a major pest of forest and shade trees in southern Ontario, southern Quebec, and the northeastern United States. It is now established in southwestern New Brunswick. The female moth cannot fly, making the spread of this pest largely dependent on transport of eggs or other life stages by human conveyance (cars, trailers). This is why tourist areas like Roosevelt Park with its large influx of vehicles are potential entry sites for gypsy moth. Pheromone trapping has been used since 1971 to monitor gypsy moth populations in the Maritimes. A trap placed in the Park in 1990 caught 25 adult male gypsy moths but no other life stages were found. Visitors are requested to report any suspected gypsy moth to Park personnel. The larva is a large (2.5-6.0 cm long) hairy caterpillar with five pairs of blue and six pairs of red spots on its back.

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BALSAM WOOLLY ADELGID attacks balsam fir trees in two ways. Either on the stem, evidenced by patches of white wool, or on twigs, where high numbers of insects feed at the base of new shoots, causing them to swell and resulting in a gouty appearance. Repeated severe twig attack cause large balsam fir trees to have flat umbrella-like crowns. Current stem attack was not evident in the Park but current and old twig attack was common at many locations, and most severe at Fox Farm Road and Upper Duck Pond area. Old dead trees killed by balsam woolly adelgid were present in some areas.

BALSAM GALL MIDGE is a very tiny insect, that creates swollen galls on needles and feeds inside them. This damage causes the needles to dry out and drop prematurely. Moderate infestation occurred along Cranberry Drive and along Upper Duck Pond Nature Trail. Light infestation occurred at many areas in the Park.

WIND, FOG, SALT SPRAY DAMAGE - numerous balsam fir, spruce, and birch, having been exposed to fog, wind, and salt spray for many years, are stunted and misshapen, and are a common sight at Fox Farm, Gooseberry Point, and Yellow Bank.

LEAF AND TWIG BLIGHT OF ASPEN, a disease that causes new shoots to wilt, turn black, and take on a shepherd's crook appearance, caused light-moderate damage at the Visitors' Centre, Friars Head, and Fox Farm.

POPLAR LEAFFOLDING SAWFLY lays its eggs on leaf edges, creating a small fold for the larva to feed within. Light damage occurred at the Visitors' Centre, Friars Head, and Fox Farm.

Other pests of interest, observed by FIDS Staff were: **casebearers** that live and feed from inside a cigar-shaped case; **birch casebearer** at trace levels along Cranberry Point Drive and light at the Visitors' Centre, Fox Farm and along Fox Hill Drive; **larch casebearer** caused light damage at several areas in the Park but was most common at Eagle Hill; **wax filament scale**, a tiny scale insect that feeds on stem of birch and beech trees, was common on birch at Cranberry Point Drive; and **leaf blister of maple**, a disease that causes black blisters on maple leaves, was common and moderate on ornamental red maple at the Visitors' Centre.

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